



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

RECENT LITERATURE.

Hawks and Owls of the United States.¹—This volume is a report on the Hawks and Owls of the United States, by Mr. A. K. Fisher, with reference to the economic status of the various species. Of it Mr. C. Hart Merriam makes the following statement in his letter of transmissal to the Secretary of Agriculture.

"This work was written several years ago, but was withheld from publication until provision could be made for suitable reproduction of the colored illustrations, without which the bulletin would have been of comparatively little value to the class of readers for whose benefit it was specially prepared.

"The statements herein contained respecting the food of the various hawks and owls are based on the critical examination, by scientific experts, of the actual contents of about 2,700 stomachs of these birds, and consequently may be fairly regarded as a truthful showing of the normal food of each species. The result proves that a class of birds commonly looked upon as enemies to the farmer, and indiscriminately destroyed whenever occasion offers, really rank among his best friends, and with few exceptions should be preserved, and encouraged to take up their abode in the neighborhood of his home. Only six of the 73 species and subspecies of hawks and owls of the United States are injurious. Of these, three are so extremely rare they need hardly be considered, and another (the Fish Hawk) is only indirectly injurious, leaving but two (the Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks) that really need be taken into account as enemies to agriculture. Omitting the six species that feed largely on poultry and game 2,212 stomachs were examined, of which 56 per cent contained mice and other small mammals, 27 per cent insects, and only $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent poultry or game birds. In view of these facts the folly of offering bounties for the destruction of hawks and owls, as has been done by several states, becomes apparent, and the importance of an accurate knowledge of the economic status of our common birds and mammals is overwhelmingly demonstrated."

Fresh Water Algæ and the Desmidiæ of the United

¹ The Hawks and Owls of the United States in their Relation to Agriculture. By A. K. Fisher. Bull. No. 3, Div. Ornith. & Mam., U. S. Dept. Agric., Washington, 1893.

States.²—This work of Mr. Stokes has been prepared with special reference to the needs of beginners in the study of Algæ and Desmids, for whom the author believes analytical keys are absolutely essential. Generally speaking an artificial one is more useful than a natural one which involves more or less dissection, ruinous to the specimen, and a knowledge of characters that a beginner does not possess.

The keys offered by Mr. Stokes are founded on the classification in Wolle's Monographs on the fresh water Algæ and Desmids of this country, and references to these works are given for extended descriptions of the species.

Directions for the collection, preservation and mounting of these microscopic plants are given, with a list of the best preserving media in the order of their excellence.

The plate illustrating the genera of Desmids is a valuable adjunct to the work.

Gasteropoda and Cephalopoda of the New Jersey Cretaceous Marls.³—This volume, in reality a Monograph of the subject, has been prepared by Professor Robert P. Whitfield for the Geological Survey of New Jersey. It constitutes the second volume of a series which is intended to include descriptions of all the fossil invertebrates found in the New Jersey Cretaceous Marls. The following is a synopsis of the Classified List which accompanies the work:

INVERTEBRATA OF THE NEW JERSEY CRETACEOUS MARLS.

Gasteropoda.

	Genera	Species
Subclass Prosobranchiata		
Order Pectinibranchiata	54	119
Order Scutibranchiata	5	6
Subclass Opisthobranchiata		
Order Tectibranchiata	6	6

Scaphoda.

Family Dentalium	3	4
------------------	---	---

² Analytical Keys to the Genera and Species of the Fresh Water Algæ and the Desmidiæ of the United States. By Alfred Stokes. Portland, Conn., 1893.

³ Gasteropoda and Cephalopoda of the Raritan Clays and Greensand Marls of New Jersey. By Robert P. Whitfield. Trenton, 1892.